

bringing their voices and their concerns here to Washington, DC, and urging my colleagues to work with me to focus on making their lives a little easier.

I am going to continue coming to work every day, asking, how do we help the people we all represent? How do we solve problems for everyone? And who is willing to work with me?

I yield the floor.

#### CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair lays before the Senate a certificate of election to fill the unexpired term created by the resignation of former Senator Kamala D. Harris, of California. And the certificate, the Chair is advised, is in the form suggested by the Senate.

Hearing no objection, the reading of the certificate will be waived and be printed in full in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the certificate was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### STATE OF CALIFORNIA

#### CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR UNEXPIRED TERM

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 8th day of November, 2022, Alex Padilla was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of California a Senator for the unexpired term ending at noon on the 3rd day of January, 2023, to fill the vacancy in the representation from said State in the Senate of the United States caused by the resignation of Kamala D. Harris.

Witness: His excellency our Governor Gavin Newsom, and our seal hereto affixed in the City of Sacramento, this 16th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2022.

GAVIN NEWSOM,  
*Governor of California.*  
SHIRLEY N. WEBER, PH.D.,  
*Secretary of State.*

[State Seal Affixed]

#### ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. If the Senator-elect will now present himself to the desk, the Chair will administer the oath of office.

The Senator-elect, ALEX PADILLA, escorted by CHARLES E. SCHUMER, advanced to the desk of the President pro tempore; the oath prescribed by law was administered to him by the President pro tempore; and he subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Congratulations, Senator.

(Applause.)

The Senator from New York.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, before the HELP staff leaves, I just want to thank all of you and, of course, Chair MURRAY for the amazing job you have done in the last 2 years. I know that many of you will continue working to continue to help people with their health, their education, and their labor policies. But it has been a great 2 years

for the Senate, and it couldn't have been done without PATTY's leadership and your great staffing of that committee. So thank you all.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be able to complete my remarks before the vote.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### NOMINATION OF LYNNE M. TRACY

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to highlight the importance of the confirmation vote on Lynne Tracy, our nominee to be Ambassador to Russia.

Today, on the 300th day of Putin's heinous, unjustified war against Ukraine, I am humbled that we will welcome President Zelenskyy to address Congress later tonight. As President Zelenskyy will no doubt underscore, Putin's war is one of the greatest challenges we face today.

Putin is targeting Ukrainian civilians. He is bombing their electricity grid and their water supplies as winter sets in. That is, in essence, from my perspective, a war crime.

We haven't seen anything like this in Europe since the Second World War. Ukrainians are fighting for their lives, for their freedom, for the future of their country and their children. But even as Putin presses forward with this brutal war, the United States needs an Ambassador who can represent us in Moscow, and that is why we need Ambassador Lynne Tracy to assume her post without delay.

She is a career diplomat with an exceptional record of leadership and public service. She has the courage to carry out her duties in the face of a hostile government and represent America beyond the Kremlin walls, and she has the experience to lead the mission in one of the most challenging and difficult places our diplomats work today.

Our personnel in Moscow are braving harsh conditions, separation from their families, and are largely cut off from the world—all to serve their country, to serve Americans who need them.

And in spite of that, we have diplomats who are raising their hands saying: Send me. Ambassador Tracy is one of them.

Our Nation needs a strong voice to stand up for our values. From the larger Russian public, many of whom feel isolated and betrayed by their leader's war of aggression, to the American de-

tainees who Putin still holds in his prisons, to the Russian opposition activists who are fighting for a different way forward in Russia, Ambassador Tracy will not shy away from confronting Putin's abuses. America needs her in her post. Europe needs her in her post. Ukraine needs her in her post. So I urge this body to confirm Ambassador Tracy today.

I yield the floor.

#### VOTE ON TRACY NOMINATION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Tracy nomination?

Mr. MENENDEZ. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), and the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS).

The result was announced—yeas 93, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 404 Ex.]

#### YEAS—93

Baldwin	Hagerty	Reed
Bennet	Hassan	Risch
Blackburn	Hawley	Romney
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Rosen
Blunt	Hirono	Rounds
Booker	Hoeven	Rubio
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Braun	Inhofe	Sasse
Brown	Johnson	Schatz
Cantwell	Kaine	Schumer
Capito	Kelly	Scott (FL)
Cardin	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Carper	King	Shaheen
Casey	Klobuchar	Shelby
Cassidy	Lankford	Sinema
Collins	Leahy	Smith
Coons	Lujan	Stabenow
Cornyn	Manchin	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Markey	Tester
Cotton	Marshall	Thune
Cramer	McConnell	Tillis
Crapo	Menendez	Toomey
Daines	Merkley	Tuberville
Duckworth	Moran	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murkowski	Warner
Ernst	Murphy	Warnock
Feinstein	Murray	Warren
Fischer	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wicker
Graham	Peters	Wyden
Grassley	Portman	Young

#### NAYS—2

Lee Paul

#### NOT VOTING—5

Barrasso	Cruz	Lummis
Burr	Hickenlooper	

The nomination was confirmed.

(Mr. PETERS assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. SCHATZ assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PETERS). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table. The President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.